



Our Dirty Dishes: Echoes of the Everyday

Some silences take the shape of objects—amassed slowly, left behind, and stacked between people.

In *Our Dirty Dishes: Echoes of the Everyday*, artist Ioana Aron (b. 1994, Romania) renders the intimate architecture of modern relationships and their nuances through a multi-layered exhibition anchored by a towering sculptural installation—a chaotic mountain of plates, pots, and utensils embodying accumulated emotional residue—paired with an immersive sound component and complemented by select works from her broader practice. Centered around a kitchen sink, the installation spills upward and outward—layered, precarious, and quietly overwhelming.

Curated by Sâng Huynh, this exhibition transforms the overlooked landscape of domestic routine into a poetic and pointed meditation on care, communication, and the emotional weight of the everyday. It asks us to consider not only what is built in shared space, but what remains unspoken within it.

“The push and pull of two worlds merging into one is often most noticeable through the mundane—dirty dishes left a bit too long, laundry left unfolded,” says Aly Bullock, Head of Relationships at Paired. “When these moments of friction are left to sit without resolution, partnership suddenly feels very lonely. This new sculpture is a reminder to pay attention to those moments and to treat them with care so that this living organism of a relationship can flourish.”

Marked by subtle gestures and intentional disorder, the work surfaces the frictions that develop over time: the moments when a partner forgets, when a word cuts too deep, when silence grows louder than conversation. Here, dishes are intimacy, memory, resentment, and apology. They are the words left unsaid, the turning point no one noticed, the emotional labor that becomes invisible until it isn't.

At the heart of the sculpture is an integrated sound installation, layering anonymous voice recordings from contributors around the world that give form to the unspoken spaces within relationships. Vulnerable, raw,

and tender, these voices drift through the gallery like memory itself—subtle, unresolved, and deeply human.

Accompanying the central sculpture are works from Aron's earlier project *Our Dirty Bedroom* (2023), which extend its narrative from the charged intimacy of the private sphere to the mute choreography of the everyday—those unremarkable rituals that, over time, come to define a life. While *Our Dirty Bedroom* unfolded as an artistic experiment, *Our Dirty Dishes: Echoes of the Everyday* emerged as a meditation on lasting love.

For Aron, this exhibition reflects steadfast presence, tacit care, and the daily gestures that sustain a shared existence. Years navigating the demands of single motherhood reshaped her sense of what truly matters, a perspective that quietly permeates the work.

Presented in collaboration with Paired—the app that brings couples closer. Supported by the Romanian Cultural Institute.

09.04 – 09.06
279 BROOME ST.

OPENING RECEPTION
09.04, 6-9PM

THE
ART
VACANCY

